

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for diagnosing the exposure to infectious agents in a patient, comprising the steps of:

a) determining a level of antibodies against an infectious agent or a corresponding recombinant antigen or synthetic peptide in a sample from said patient;

b) comparing the level of antibodies determined in step a) with normal levels of said antibodies, wherein

(i) normal levels of infectious antibodies indicate optimal conditions; and

(ii) higher than normal levels of infectious agent antibodies indicate a presence or possibility of an infection.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein step a) comprises determining a level of antibodies against an infectious agent selected from the group consisting of bacterial agent, parasitic agent, and viral agent.

3. The method according to Claim 1, wherein step a) comprises determining a level of antibodies against an infectious agent selected from the group consisting of *Streptococcus sanguis*, *Streptococcus oralis*, *Peptostreptococcus anaerobius*, *Eubacterium alactolyticum*, *Bacteroides oralis*, *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Borellia burgdorferi*, *Treponema pallidum*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, *Mycoplasma genitalium*, *Mycoplasma fermentans*, *Mycoplasma oralis*, *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Helicobacter pylori*, *Coxsackievirus*, *Epstein-Barr virus*, *Cytomegalovirus*, *Hepatitis A*, and *Trypanozoma cruzi*.

4. The method according to Claim 1, wherein determining the level of antibodies in steps a) and b) is accomplished using an immunoassay.

5. The method according to Claim 6, wherein the immunoassay is an ELISA test.

6. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the antibodies in steps a) and b) is measured from saliva.

7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein the measured antibodies are IgA.